

REMARKS

The Applicant requests consideration and allowance of new claims 23 through 35 in view of the above amendments and following arguments.

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 through 22 have been canceled and claims 23 through 35 have been added.

Newly added independent claims 23, 29, and 34 require limitations that were not required in the previous independent claims. In particular, claims 23, 29, and 34 involve a game ticket that includes a number of directly identifiable result codes with each result code being representative of a respective game play outcome. Support for this limitation can be found in the specification of the present application on page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 2. In addition, the game ticket includes machine readable game play information that specifies the game play outcomes represented by the result codes formed on the game ticket. Support for this limitation can be found in the specification of the present application on page 11, lines 6 through 21. Claims 23, 29, and 34 require reading the machine readable game play information with a game ticket reader. Support for this limitation can be found in the specification on page 12, lines 1 through 9. Claims 23, 29, and 34 also require that the player station is disabled from displaying the game play outcomes specified by the read machine readable game play information if the cover over the result codes is detected, and further require that the player station is enabled to display the game play outcomes specified by the read machine readable game play information if the cover is absent. Support for these limitations can be found in the specification of the present application on page 21, lines 1 through 21.

1 II. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

2 The amendments to the specification have been made to correct typographical errors or to  
3 provide consistency between the terms used in the claims and in the specification.

4  
5 III. NEW CLAIMS 23-35 ARE NOT INDEFINITE UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST  
6 PARAGRAPH

7 The Final Office Action rejected claims 1 through 22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first  
8 paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Applicant submits  
9 that the cancellation of claims 1 through 22 obviates this rejection.

10  
11 IV. NEW CLAIMS 23-35 ARE ALLOWABLE IN VIEW OF KAMILLE

12 The Final Office Action rejects claims 1-2, 6, 9-13, and 16-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as  
13 being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,996,997 to Kamille ("Kamille" or the "Kamille patent").  
14 In addition, the Final Office Action rejects claims 3-5, 7, 8, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as  
15 being obvious over Kamille. The Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 23 through 35  
16 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Kamille because Kamille does not teach or  
17 suggest all of the limitations required by these claims.  
18

19  
20 Independent Claim 23

21 New claim 23 is directed to a method for use in connection with a game ticket having  
22 formed thereon both machine readable game play information and a number of directly  
23 identifiable result codes, each result code being representative of a respective game play  
24 outcome. Claim 23 also requires the following limitations:

- 1 (a) receiving the game ticket in a game ticket reader of a player station;
- 2 (b) reading the machine readable game play information with the game ticket reader,
- 3 **the machine readable game play information specifying the game play**
- 4 **outcomes represented by the result codes formed on the game ticket;**
- 5 (c) detecting whether the game ticket received in the game ticket reader includes a
- 6 cover over an area of the game ticket on which the result codes are formed;
- 7 (d) in the event that the detecting step indicates that the cover is present on the game
- 8 ticket, **disabling the player station from displaying the game play outcomes**
- 9 **specified by the machine readable game play information that has been read**
- 10 **with the game ticket reader; and**
- 11 (e) in the event that the detecting step indicates that the cover is absent from the game
- 12 ticket, enabling the player station to display the game play outcomes specified by
- 13 the machine readable game play information that has been read with the game
- 14 ticket reader. (emphasis added)
- 15

16 The Kamille patent discloses a probability game that includes game pieces that have a  
 17 number of covered play areas where the cover may be removed from any particular play area.  
 18 Each covered play area is associated with a particular result, such as "win \$1" or "void." The  
 19 overall outcome for the game piece is identified based on the results associated with any  
 20 uncovered play areas. (Kamille at col. 6, lines 21-39). A particular game piece may be scored  
 21 and authenticated by sending the game piece through a device, such as a bar code scanner.  
 22 (Kamille at col. 12, lines 6-14). A game piece may not be scored or authenticated according to  
 23 Kamille if a sufficient amount of the cover has not been removed from a play area or if the cover  
 24 has not been removed from any of the play areas. (Kamille at col. 13, lines 28-30 and lines 45-  
 25 61).

26 Kamille, however, does not disclose elements (b) and (d) of claim 23. These elements  
 27 require that the game ticket reader reads the machine readable game play information from the  
 28 game ticket and that the player station is disabled from displaying the game play outcomes  
 29 specified by this read game play information when the cover is present on the game ticket. But in  
 30 Kamille, it is not possible for the scoring device to both read information specifying the game

1 play outcomes and be disabled from displaying the game play outcomes because the cover is  
2 present on the game piece. In particular, col. 13, lines 28-30 and 45-61 of Kamille disclose that  
3 when the scoring device is disabled from displaying game play outcomes, it is because the  
4 scoring device cannot read the machine readable information specifying the game play outcomes  
5 due to the cover being present over the machine readable information. Thus, the scoring device  
6 in Kamille is disabled from displaying game play outcomes specified by game play information  
7 that it cannot read rather than being disabled from displaying game play outcomes specified by  
8 information that has already been read as required by claim 23.

9 Therefore, since Kamille does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations required by  
10 claim 23, this reference cannot anticipate or render obvious claim 23. For these reasons, the  
11 Applicant submits that claim 23 is entitled to allowance along with its respective dependent  
12 claims, claims 24 through 28.

13  
14 Independent Claims 29 and 34

15 Independent claims 29 and 34 are apparatus and program product claims, respectively,  
16 that require limitations corresponding to the limitations required by elements (a) through (e) of  
17 claim 23. In particular, claims 29 and 34 require reading the machine readable game play  
18 information from the game ticket and disabling the player station from displaying the game play  
19 outcomes specified by the read game play information when the cover is present on the game  
20 ticket. Since claims 29 and 34 require limitations corresponding to the limitations required by  
21 elements (b) and (d) of claim 23, the arguments presented above with respect to claim 23 apply  
22 with equal force to independent claims 29 and 34. Because the Kamille patent does not disclose

1 or suggest all of the limitations required by claims 29 and 34, these claims cannot be anticipated  
2 by or rendered obvious in view of Kamilie. For these reasons, the Applicant submits that claims  
3 29 and 34 are entitled to allowance along with their respective dependent claims, claims 30  
4 through 33 and claim 35.

5  
6 V. CONCLUSION

7 For all of these reasons, the Applicant requests consideration and allowance of new  
8 claims 23 through 35. If the Examiner should feel that any issue remains as to the allowability of  
9 these claims, or that a conference might expedite allowance of the claims, he is asked to  
10 telephone the Applicant's attorney Trevor Lind at the number listed below prior to issuing a  
11 further action.

12 Respectfully submitted,

13 The Culbertson Group, P.C.

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16  
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26 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark  
27 Office, (Facsimile No. 571.273.8300) on March 14, 2006.

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